for December, 1897, gives additional corroboration of the former claim, since he shows that the secretion digests fibrin in the presence of one per cent. hydrocyanic acid, and that its enzyme retains its digestive activity when kept for several weeks in pure glycerine. His studies do not reach to the secretion of the necessary acid, which, in one species at least, is present in the liquid of unopened pitchers, and therefore is not the result of stimulation by the presence of foreign bodies.

Primitive Angiosperms. — From a morphological study of Naias and Zannichellia,[1] Professor Campbell shows that both anthers and ovules are axial structures, approaching, as he believes, more closely to the sporangia of Pteridophytes than do those of any other angiosperm, and he seems inclined to look upon these genera as standing nearer to the diverging point of Isoetaceæ and monocotyledons than do most representatives of the latter group.

New Species of Pectis. — Mr. M. L. Fernald, of the Gray Herbarium, contributes to the knowledge of Mexican plants by publishing in vol. xxiii, no. 5, of the *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* a paper on some rare and undescribed plants collected at Acapulco by Dr. Edward Palmer in 1894, and a systematic study of the genus Pectis, including species of the United States as well as Mexico. Of this genus, *P. Lessingii*, *P. prostrata*, var. *cylindrica*, and var. *urceolata*, *P. sinalœnsis*, *P. depressa*, *P. capillaris*, var. *paucicapitata*, *P. filipes*, var. *subnuda*, *P. Pringlei*, *P. Rosei*, *P. elongata*, var. *Schottii*, *P. ambigua*, and *P. linifolia*, var. *marginalis* are described as new.

Botanical Notes. — Botanists will be interested in knowing that the herbarium and notes of the late M. S. Bebb, a collection invaluable for any systematic study of North American willows, have been purchased by the Field Columbian Museum of Chicago.

An article on "The North American Genus Sarracenia," illustrated by a reproduction of a photograph of *S. Chelsoni* (*S. rubra* × *purpurea*), is to be found in *Gartenwelt*, of Berlin, of Dec. 26, 1897.

Students of European botany, who have found difficulty in resigning themselves to the use of one name for the terra-cotta-flowered and blue-flowered forms of the poor man's weather-glass, which they

[1] D. H. Campbell, Contributions to Biology from the Hopkins Seaside Laboratory of the Leland Stanford Junior University. XI, A Morphological Study of Naias and Zannichellia. Reprinted from *Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences*, 3d ser., Bot., vol. i. San Francisco, Cal., 1897. 61 pp., 5 pl.